(a) whether the Government propose to convert the Samastipur-Narkatiaganj railway line into broad-gauge;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The work is not an approved work.

Express Train from Kiul to Gaya

1070. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new Express train from Kiul to Gaya in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to operational and resource constraints.

[*English*]

Doubling and Electrification of Secunderabad-Guntur Line

1071. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for doubling and electrification of the railway line between Secunderabad and Guntur (via) Nalgonda in Andhra Pradesh during the Eighth Plan Period; and

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project and the time frame fixed for the completion of this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Secunderabad – Bibinagar section is already doubled and is being electrified. There is no proposal to double or electrify Bibinagar-Nalgonda-Guntur section during the 8th Plan period.

[*Translation*]

Expenditure on Mother Child Health Programme

1072. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on Maternal and Child Health Programme in Araiya, Bihar; and

(b) the target fixed under the programme and the achievements made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Felling of Trees in Bheem Bandh Forests

1073. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Lakhon ke ped roj kut rahai hain, Bheem Bandh Jungle Mein appearing in the Nav Bharat Times, dated January 21, 1992;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to prevent felling of trees on such a large scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been reported by the State Government that it is not a fact that trees worth lakhs of rupees are being out in the forests of 'Bheem Bandh' in Bihar State.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Multiple Sets of Examination Papers

1074. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Secondary Education propose to use the multiple sets of papers for X and XII Class examination to check the unfair means;

(b) if so, the rationale for such a move; and

(c) steps taken by the Government to check the disparities that may occur in the final marks due to this methodology?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to use multiple sets of question papers in Delhi w.e.f. 1992 Examinations to be conducted by the CBSE, in order to control mass copying and minimise the use of unfair means in the Board Examinations.

(c) Due care and necessary appropriate steps have been taken at the stage of setting of question papers and moderating of question papers so that there is no adverse effect on any section of the student community because of any possible disparity in the difficulty level of multiple sets of question papers.

In addition to these, all possible care will be taken by the Head Examiner at the time of finalising the Marking schemes so that there is no imbalance disfavouring any candidate because of different sets of question papers and that justice is done to them according to their performance. Besides this, analysis of results obtained in each set of question papers vis-a-vis other sets of question papers administered in the same subjects will be undertaken to identify whether the candidates have been put to any disadvantage because of the multiple sets of question papers used by the Board. In case it is found that such a disadvantage has actually occurred, remedial steps will be taken before the declaration of results.

[*Translation*]

Increase in Stipend to Meritorious Students of Poor Families

1075. ACHARYA VISHWANATH DAS SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the amount of stipends being given to the meritorious students of the poor families;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) This Department awards scholarships for the poor and meritorious students under National Scholarship Scheme and the Scheme of Scholarships at Secondary Stage for Talented Children from Rural Areas. The